



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's Crop Production

HARRISBURG, PA, Jan 14, 2008 - - Based on year end acreage and yield data, production of alfalfa dry hay, winter wheat, soybeans, corn for grain, sorghum for silage, Southern Maryland and Pennsylvania seedleaf type tobaccos in Pennsylvania was above last year's production, according to the Pennsylvania office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Production of corn for silage, sorghum for grain, oats, barley, fall potatoes, burley tobacco and other dry hay were below last year's production.

Corn for grain production totaled 125.4 million bushels, up 7 percent from last year's production. Corn acres harvested for grain was estimated at 980,000 and the average yield was 128 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from 2006 and 2005. Corn for silage production at 6.8 million tons, was down 1 percent from production in 2006 and 2005. Acres harvested for silage totaled 410,000, up 8 percent from 2006 and 2005. Silage yield was 16.5 tons per acre, down 1.5 tons per acre from both the 2006 and 2005 yields.

Alfalfa dry hay production was 1.80 million tons, 20 percent above last year's production. Acres harvested were 600,000, an increase of 100,000 acres from last year, with an average yield of 3.0 tons per acre. Alfalfa haylage and greenchop production was 1.92 million tons (green weight), 6 percent below last year's production. Acres harvested were 320,000, with an average yield of 6.0 tons per acre. All alfalfa forage production was 2.75 million tons (dry weight equivalent), 9 percent above last year's production. Alfalfa acres newly seeded in 2007 for crop production in 2008 totaled 100,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from a year ago. All other dry hay acres harvested totaled 1,200,000 acres, 50,000 acres below last year, with a yield of 2.00 tons per acre for a total production of 2.40 million tons, down 34 percent from last year. Total forage production on a dry equivalent basis was 5.46 million tons, 17 percent below last year's production. Forage was harvested from 2.05 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Average forage yield per acre in 2007 was 2.67 dry tons, compared to 3.29 dry tons a year ago.

Oat production was 4.48 million bushels, 36 percent below last year's production. Harvested acres totaled 80,000, down 30,000 acres from both last year and two years ago. The yield was 56 bushels per acre, 8 bushels below last year. Production of winter wheat was 8.99 million bushels, 2 percent above 2006. Harvested acres totaled 155,000, with a yield of 58.0 bushels per acre, 1 bushel per acre below last year. Winter wheat seeded in the fall of 2007 for production of a crop in 2008 totaled 170,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from a year ago. Barley production was 3.07 million bushels, 18 percent less than 2006. Acreage harvested was 42,000 with an average yield per acre of 73 bushels, down 8 bushels per acre from a year ago.

Soybean production, at 17.2 million bushels, was 1 percent above last year's production. Acreage harvested was 420,000, down 5,000 acres from 2006. The 2007 yield was 41.0 bushels per acre, 1 bushel per acre above a year ago.

Sorghum for grain production totaled 168,000 bushels, 49 percent below last year's crop. Sorghum acres harvested for grain totaled 3,000, down 2,000 from 2006. Sorghum yield was 56.0 bushels per acre, compared with a yield for grain of 66.0 bushels per acre last year, and 50.0 bushels in 2005. Sorghum acres harvested for silage was set at 9,000, up 3,000 from a year ago. Silage yield was 12.0 tons per acre, compared to 7.5 tons in 2006. Production of sorghum silage was 108,000 tons, up 140 percent from last year.

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Fall potato production, at 2.20 million hundredweight (cwt.), was down 19 percent from last year's production. Acres harvested were down 500 from last year at 10,000. The yield of 220 cwt. per acre was down 40 cwt. from last year's yield and down 30 cwt. per acre from the yield of two years ago.

Pennsylvania burley tobacco production totaled 10.75 million pounds, down 7 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest was 5,000, compared to 5,500 a year ago. Average yield per acre was 2,150 pounds, up 50 pounds per acre from last year. Southern Maryland type tobacco production totaled 2.3 million pounds, 11 percent more than last year. Harvested acreage was 1,100, unchanged from 2006. Pennsylvania seedleaf-type tobacco production totaled 4.1 million pounds, 59 percent more than last year. Harvested acreage was 1,800, up 500 acres from last year. The average yield of 2,300 pounds per acre was up 300 pounds from last year.

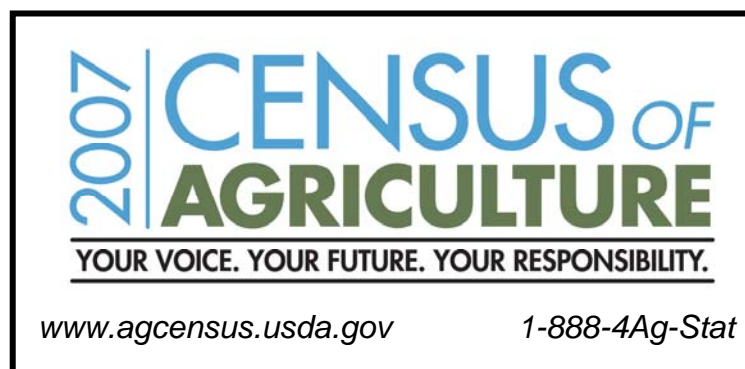
Maple syrup producers in Pennsylvania produced 51,000 gallons of syrup in 2007, down 23 percent from a year ago.

At the **United States** level, corn for grain production was estimated at 13.1 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the November forecast, but 24 percent above 2006. The average U.S. grain yield is estimated at 151.1 bushels per acre, down 1.9 bushels from the November forecast but 2.0 bushels above 2006. The 2007 yield estimate is the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production is the largest on record producers harvested the most corn acres for grain since 1933.

Soybean production in 2007 totaled 2.59 billion bushels, down slightly from the November forecast and 19 percent below the record high production of 2006. The average yield per acre is estimated at 41.2 bushels, 0.1 bushels below the November forecast and 1.5 bushels below last year's yield. Harvested area is down 16 percent from 2006, to 62.8 million acres.

Production of other major crops and changes from the previous year are as follows: corn for silage, 106 million tons, up 1 percent; dry alfalfa hay, 72.6 million tons, up 1 percent; other dry hay, 77.7 million tons, up 11 percent; oats, 91.6 million bushels, down 2 percent; winter wheat, 1.5 billion bushels, up 17 percent; barley 211.8 million bushels, up 18 percent; soybeans, 2.59 billion bushels, down 19 percent; all potatoes, 449.2 million cwt., up 2 percent; all tobacco, 778.6 million pounds, up 7 percent; and maple syrup 1.26 million gallons, down 13 percent.

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